

Foreign Rum Is Being Forced Out By Home-made Variety, Club Told By Foreman in Enforcement Talk

Trenton Times - 5/1/29

That there is a noticeable decrease in importation of liquor into this country, not only due to the efficiency of the United States Government, but to the competition offered by illicit domestic manufacturers of spurious liquors, was stressed in a talk today by Philip Forman, this city, United States District Attorney, in a talk at the luncheon meeting of the Kiwanis Club, at the Stacy-Trent. The meeting was presided over by A. F. Giese, president, and the speaker was introduced by Clarence Howell.

District Attorney Forman, as an illustration to his assertion, stated that bottles used for a former popular brand of legal liquor are manufactured by the thousands in Philadelphia, the labels printed in Easton and the non-refillable stoppers manufactured by a Trenton concern. Mr. Forman went into many of the activities of the United States Government in connection with law enforcement, citing the various branches of the Court. He added:

"There can be no doubt that the growing disregard for law has finally become a decided menace to the well-being of the nation and the safety of its citizenry. This has been commented upon with great seriousness by one who has devoted a long life to the study of all branches of our governmental system, namely, the executive, legislative and judicial. I refer to our former President and present Chief Justice, Honorable William Howard Taft, who not so long ago cryptically said: 'The administration of the criminal law in this country is a disgrace to our civilization.' More recently Mr. Hoover brought forcibly to the attention of the citizenry the prevalence of lawlessness in our country.

"In the person of the present Attorney General, Mr. Mitchell, the country is possessed of a law administrator who is intelligent and fearless. It is well for the nation that at this crux there live three men of a type of Chief Justice Taft, Mr. Hoover and Mr. Mitchell, and that they have recognized the import of the present situation. Permit me to predict that this triumvirate comprising as it does the experience of the Chief Justice, the organizing ability of the President and the administrative ability of the Attorney General, to carry out and enforce the collective ideas of the three, will within the reasonably near future

result in a much more effective obedience to the law of the land. The proposed Commission, about which you have already read, will study the administration of all of the laws of the United States.

"The magnitude of the results of such a study and the execution of recommendations derived therefrom is stupendous. It will undoubtedly result in far reaching and revolutionary changes in our entire system of criminal procedure and penology, but much patience must be demonstrated because this situation has not come about in a week or a month or a year, but like all diseases, has been insidiously slow in its spread, and like such a disease it will require much time to cure. It will take years to eliminate partisanship and politics from the administration of justice, but it can and will be done because the public has now at last become aroused to a sense of its insecurity because drastic remedies are obtained.

With specific regard to the Jones Law, I have little to say. The law simply permits the imposition of larger penalties upon flagrant violators if in the discretion of the sentencing court he deems such a course necessary.

"It is my belief that under this law a complete reversal of procedure will take place. Up to this time we have had many cases against large numbers of small violators, with the flagrant, prosperous colossal operator, a source of supply untouched. Hereafter it will be the endeavor of the government to make fewer cases, but cases involving the said powerful operators. Effort will be concentrated on a few of them, and when evidence is procured, and it can be procured, it will be placed before grand juries. My experience with Federal grand juries in the State of New Jersey leads me to believe that these bodies will indict, and upon trial, the same experience teaches me that upon proper proof petit juries will not countenance the utter insolent and arrogant flouting of the laws of the United States, and convictions will be had, and then, under the Jones law, judges of the Federal Court of this district are, I am convinced, of such calibre that substantial sentences running into years at Atlanta, will be meted out, and if this occurs in New Jersey in the cities of Jersey City, Newark, Paterson, New Brunswick, Trenton, Camden, Atlantic City you will see a marked change in the attitude of the violators of the Constitution of the United States."

HOOVER'S ORDER OUSTS DE GROOT

Trenton Times - 5/1/29

**President Refuses to Grant
Hearing to Federal Attorney
of East New York**

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, May 2.—William A. De Groot, who repeatedly had refused to resign as United States Attorney for the Eastern New York District, has been summarily dismissed from office by President Hoover.

He is the third District Attorney forced out of office since Attorney General Mitchell undertook to comply with the President's desire for increased efficiency in the government service and initiated the nation-wide survey of prosecuting attorney's offices, which is still in progress.

De Groot's resignation was first requested during administration of the Department of Justice by former Attorney General Sargent. That request was made January 28, 1929, Mitchell informed the President, and was refused. The new Attorney General repeated it April 3. His letter, he told Mr. Hoover, was ignored, and the request was renewed April 24, being refused again by De Groot in a telegram sent five days later.

Acting on Mitchell's recommendation and his statement of the situation, President Hoover wrote yesterday to De Groot:

"You are hereby removed from the office of United States Attorney, Eastern District of New York, effective immediately."

He thus also rejected De Groot's request for a public hearing, Mitchell having told him that a hearing had been held under Sargent and that "it would be a waste of time to comply with Mr. De Groot's request for any further hearing."

"There seems to be no difference of opinion among judges, members of the bar, or officials or attorneys in the Department of Justice," the Attorney General wrote, "as to the existence of unsatisfactory conditions in Mr. De Groot's office, and as to the necessity for supplanting him by a competent and reliable man who will thoroughly reorganize the office and make immediate and extensive changes in the personnel."

EXPOSE THREATENED IN PENNSYLVANIA

Trenton Times - May 2 (United Press) 1929

PHILADELPHIA, May 2.—Disclosures of liquor violations which may make the Special Grand Jury investigation appear as a prelude to the real thing soon may be made.

In Washington today, Federal Prohibition Administrator Samuel O. Wynne, of the Eastern Pennsylvania District, was seeing high officials of the Treasury Department and prohibition enforcement officers advocating the appointment of a dry and fearless Federal Attorney to succeed George E. Coles, resigned. Colonel Wynne said that if a dry Federal attorney were appointed he would submit evidence to a Federal Grand Jury that would show a gigantic prohibition conspiracy involving Federal and State officials as well as Philadelphia and up-State liquor vendors.

Colonel Wynne supports Warren C. Graham, former legal advisor to the Federal prohibition administrator here.

Garage Raid Yields Liquor, Owner Held

Ledger - 5/2/29
JERSEY CITY, May 2 (AP).—Detectives attached to the office of County Prosecutor John Drewen, assisted by Federal Prohibition officers from Newark, today raided the Star garage at 474-78 Montgomery street, opposite the 7th precinct police station.

John Mulligan, proprietor, was arrested on a charge of possessing liquor. A search of the place disclosed two quarts of alleged liquor.